

# RANDOLPH JOURNAL.

## WINCHESTER:

Friday, - - - July 11, 1862.

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L. G. DYNES, } Editors.

### Our New Dress.

Our readers will see that the form of our paper has materially changed since its last visit. We introduce it in its new dress, hoping that it may be even a more welcome visitor than heretofore.

Of one thing we are certain—the paper will be much neater and shall be a live institution.

Of course, it can not be expected that a county town can possibly furnish a paper to vie with those published in the Eastern cities, with their thousands of subscribers, and correspondents in every division of the army. These are so patronized by advertisements and by Government that the paper can be given to the subscribers at the cost of the material alone, depending on the other income for the margin of profits.

But in County papers this is impossible, consequently the price of them has been kept up apparently high. Still, notwithstanding the fact that city papers furnish more reading matter, yet they cannot supply the place of a county press. Home enterprises need its influence, and would not live unless it possessed this medium through which to inform the public of their intentions. Then it gives life and vigor to the town and county in which such paper is located, showing that all is not yet dead, but that there is still life and enterprise there. A County seat without a newspaper would be like a violin with out strings. Those of enterprise who have been in the habit of taking their home paper will appreciate its worth, not perhaps on account of its able discussion of any topic, but because it brings them into more intimate contact with the interest of their fellow citizens. Through its political physicians may more easily feel the pulse of the county and watch the diagnosis and prognosis of any political movements. Such men can also express their views to the people as readily and a great deal more effectually than could possibly be done by visiting every crossroad in the county. It is particularly the interest of every class to support well their home paper, remembering that the more patronage it receives the more interesting it can be made. There is but very little money in publishing a paper when the country is flooded with dailies, but while other papers have become embarrassed and lost half their subscription, the circulation of the *Journal* has increased full one hundred in the last three months, with a fine prospect for the future, if its friends will only work.

Heretofore, the great difficulty has been in doing a credit business. Everything about a printing establishment is cash, while

three-fourths of its business is done on the credit system. This has been done to so great an extent that over a thousand dollars are now owing to the *Journal*, some of which ought to have been paid long ago. To avoid this in the future we have concluded to cut down the price of the paper to ONE DOLLAR per year, if paid in advance, or one dollar and fifty cents on time, which brings it within the possibility of every one to take it.

We are determined to make a live paper—let our friends throughout the county encourage and help us, by getting new subscribers and paying up their old bills.

We commend to the careful perusal and earnest consideration of every loyal voter in this Congressional District, the article, headed, "Re-Election of Members of Congress," from the *National Republican*, which will be found on the third page of this paper. Having given it a proper examination ask yourself the question, "Can I vote for a man who is better acquainted with the workings of the present Administration, one who has served his constituents better in being true to his country in this its hour of peril, or one who will more ably represent us in the next Congress, than the present incumbent?"

We send the present number of the *JOURNAL* to many throughout the county who are not subscribers, hoping that after a careful examination, they will send us their names, and use their influence in obtaining a circulation for it in their neighborhoods. Give us your patronage, friends, and we will in return give you a paper every way worthy of the support of the public.

This is not a fair specimen of what we intend to make the *JOURNAL*, as we shall spare neither expense nor labor to render it a welcome visitor to every family and second to no other county paper in the State.

The Governor has again made a call for 11 Regiments of Infantry and 6 batteries of Artillery.—One Regiment is to be raised in every Congressional District. The one from the fifth is to rendezvous at Richmond, Ind. The quota for Randolph is about 200 men.

Let these be raised immediately as they will. Randolph county is never behind and will never under any circumstances be chagrined by the fact that any man from within her borders was ever drafted. Come out, young men, and fight for your country, never dying honors await you.

The public installation of officers of the I. O. O. F. came off last evening a week. It was a very nice affair. The order in Winchester is flourishing finely, as it should. There are many reasons why every young man, particularly, should connect himself with Odd Fellowship.

### The Result of the Battles of Richmond.

After ten days of suspense in waiting for the particulars of the six days' fight before Richmond, we perhaps have the key which lets us into the results of these terrible engagements which have never had their equals on the American Continent. Thirty thousand men and horses lay weltering in their blood. A fearful loss to contemplate! One's heart bleeds to let his mind rest for a single moment upon the carnage of this great battle.—There is excitement and a certain kind of pleasure in contemplating a charge upon an enemy; but visit the field when the smoke has cleared away,—when passion and rage have ceased to burn in the bosoms of the wounded,—see their wounds and hear their screams, and you will behold a picture to make the hardest heart weep; and when all this suffering accomplishes nothing it is still worse.

There need be no denying the fact our forces were repulsed in front of Richmond with the loss of 29,000 of our best soldiers and an immense amount of commissary stores, amounting to enough, the *Richmond Examiner* claims, to feed the whole rebel army three months. Our boys fought well, but were outnumbered in every instance, and met with a courage in every respect equal to their own.

From rebel papers it is learned that Stonewall Jackson brought into the field 14,000 men, 8,000 of whom were killed and wounded. They stood the deadly fire of our men with a courage worth a better cause. All our sick and wounded, the former amounting to 1,000, were taken by the enemy. Two Generals also fell into their hands; but we have in return 4 Colonels, 3 Lieut. Colonels, and 6 Majors. The rebels claim to have taken 12,000 prisoners, which, of course, is an over-estimate. But what have we gained?

McClellan has changed his base of operations to the James river, where his army is under the protection of the iron mounted rambos, and the advance upon Richmond will be made in connection with them. The swamps of the Chickahominy were also doing their work more effectually than the enemy. Our troops are now free from their deadly poisons and in a healthful locality,—in no danger of having their supplies cut off as in the case of Stuart's raid near White House. Since we are masters of the waters, army stores can come via Fortress Monroe up the James river.

In all probability the position of the army is better than before; but why this position was not taken at first, and 15,000 lives saved and the chagrin of defeat avoided, is a question not easily settled. Later news is still more encouraging.

### That Convention.

There is quite an excitement in several of the counties of this Congressional District in regard to the Convention proposed to be held at Cambridge City next August. There is a certain clique in the District who are determined to nominate by a Convention, knowing well whom the people would select if left to them. We do not consider the action of these men binding in the least, and shall not act in accordance with their programme, unless it suits us. What authority these men had to meet 75 miles from their several counties and act for the people in this manner is rather difficult to see. There is something rotten in Denmark. It already stinketh, and, if not much mistaken, we distinguish Judge Kilgore in the mix.—They are afraid to leave it to the people, every effort being made to defeat this plan.

There are not, and cannot be, any objections to a popular vote, by any honest man. Why not let the voters decide this question themselves, and take it out of the hands of politicians. Objections have been urged that the nomination in Wayne and Randolph was not fairly made. How unfair? Were not Mr. Julian's opponents invited to trot out their man at the April election, and defeat him if they could?—It was no fault of his that there was no opposition to him in that election.

The cry all the time is for harmony. Can this end be secured in any better manner than by having all the candidates propose their names to the people and let them make their nomination, then in October quietly deposit their ballots for the man of their choice? Those who pursue a different course will be responsible for the war they are stirring up in our midst. In the meantime let the people watch that they are not swindled out of their right by wily politicians.

### The Popular Vote System Being Adopted.

"Little Union" has decided to nominate candidates for County and Congressional offices by ballot; the vote to be taken on the third Saturday in August. It was also resolved by the Convention which made this decision, that in case the other counties of the District decide upon a Congressional Delegate Convention, this vote shall operate as instructions to the Delegates from the several Townships. Thus three Counties of the District, Randolph, Wayne and Union, in accordance with the practice heretofore, have resolved in favor of this mode of making nominations. We have not the least doubt but that Henry and Delaware will, ere long, adopt the same system; and, in fact, the whole District, if the wishes of the people are consulted.

### LATER.

Since writing the above, Henry county has held a Union Convention, (the proceedings of which will be found in another column,) at which it was resolved to nominate candidates for County and Congressional offices, by ballot, on the second Monday in August next. Let the ball roll on.

### For the Journal.

### Henry County Union Convention.

Messrs. Editors.—The eventful "28th of June" came and past, but the memory of it will linger long with some of the citizens of Henry county. I do not propose to give the proceedings of the Union Convention, which will appear in the *Newcastle Courier*, but simply a brief account of what was said and done.

On the day fixed by adjournment, the Convention assembled, and the people were out in their strength. From early morn till P. M., they poured in, in throngs, to the very evident amazement of the Court House politicians, who had calculated to have it all their own way. They had the management of the previous Convention and though assured that the farmers could not reasonably, and probably would not turn out on that day, nothing else would do, so by refusing to put the question on a motion to adjourn *sine die*, previously made, the thing was engineered through, and everything in nice order as they thought; hence their amazement, some inquiring what in the world was the matter that so many came out! The great apathy hitherto manifested is perhaps an excuse for their not thinking at once, and knowing (if they did not) that the unauthorized action of the self-constituted guardians of this District's political wealth, styled a "Congressional District Central Committee," proposing a return to the old system of a delegated district nominating convention, was the all-sufficient cause that roused them.

After an organization had been effected by the choice of Benj. Shirk for President, with a Secretary and assistant, and the unanimous adoption of a resolution endorsing the action and nominees of the State Convention, resolutions were offered by C. Johnson repudiating the action of the so-called district central committee, and setting a — day for nominating candidates for county offices, and at the same time to nominate (as far as this county is concerned) a Congressman.—The blank was filled with the "2d Saturday in August."

The hall was then opened by J. T. Elliott, who condescended to vindicate himself from a newspaper charge of being a competitor in the race, by saying he had no Congressional aspirations—is not, has not been, and will not be a candidate.—The Judge was pained to see a rebellious disposition manifested, and in a judicial, perhaps, but not very judicious way, assured us that, on the day appointed by the District Central Committee, Delegates would be appointed anyhow; that the Congressional nominating Convention on the 4th of September would be held, and a candidate nominated, regardless of course what we did that day. The inevitable conclusion was, that the action of that Committee was authoritative and final.—Of course we then all felt like we were on a fool's errand, without authority to do anything but ratify and sanction what had been already predetermined should be done.

The Judge admitted, as do all of us, that, with but two candidates in the field, there would be no important difference in the result, on the different plans proposed. "But," he argued, "as it is, the direct vote system would enable the minority to rule." This plan, however, was

unobjectionable to him and his associates in case of county offices, where there are many candidates, which demonstrated the insincerity of the objection.

It is an evil, or at least a difficulty, nearly always attending a multiplicity of candidates, that one will be selected whose primary supporters are a minority of all the votes in the party; but it requires a person of the Judge's astuteness to see, for common people can't, why the minority are more likely to wield a dangerous power when voting directly, than through Delegates. They, however, think they can see how a very small minority may, on the latter plan, or at least how one whom very few like, may be nominated on a compromise. They have a suspicion that politicians will trade when opportunity offers. They have a distrust of these Conventions, because Delegates, always having (as they must) some discretionary power, may possibly be bought, or if of immaculate probity, may be coaxed or driven, or, more likely, duped, and induced to vote for one not at all the choice of the people, by appeals for unity and harmony.

"O! our bleeding country's lost if we fail to agree." And [aside] (to the spokesman of the Delegates,) "seeing such and such townships never will accept this or that candidate, you now come do vote for this one, and such and such others will concede and we shall have harmony." For some such chicanery as this by which the most popular candidate should be cheated out of his pre-eminence the mushroom Central Committee had made arrangements, and the Judge and other opponents of Johnson's resolutions were striving to carry out that plan, but for once they signally failed; although Col. Murphy scolded considerably, and S. T. Powell alternately coaxed and cuffed, exhorted and execrated, plied and threatened, and flew off the handle generally,—while Ferris, with tears almost in his eyes, begged and besought the rash disorganizers, by all their love of our distracted country, not to go and do so. But all to no purpose. "Tears and curses alike unavailing." The bull-headed masses were there, and having been so often flatteringly told that they were the source of power, they stupidly took it for earnest, and resolved to administer a gentle rebuke to their servants, who went to Indianapolis and did the thing they were not sent to do.

We were cautioned against the arrogance of one county attempting to dictate to the whole District, (although they knew we were attempting nothing more than to get at the choice of the majority in the county, and that it should have its due weight only,) yet a few citizens, meeting together at Indianapolis on other business, may appoint themselves a District Central Committee, appoint a time, prescribe a way for the whole District, in the face of the action of two counties, dictate the appointment of Delegates, &c.; yet these fair-convention men see nothing revolutionary in it! It is even so regular that the other way cannot be urged without incurring the charge of being rebellious disorganizers.

As illustrating the *animus* of the opposition, I will state that one of the leaders, on the streets, charged us with being no better than the rebels, or, at least, our leaders he had no more respect for.

W. E.

SICKLAND, Henry Co.

### New Department.

The Commissary General's Department of this State has been reorganized, and an office opened in the State Capitol building, under the charge of Col. A. Stone, Commissary General.

This Department is to look after the welfare and necessities of sick and disabled Indiana soldiers, etc.

### To Delinquents.

We propose to all persons now in arrears on subscription to the *JOURNAL*, that if they come forward immediately and settle said arrearages, and subscribe for for another year, by paying in advance, they can have our paper at one dollar a year, instead of \$1.50 as heretofore. Those failing to comply with this proposition may expect to be charged at our former rates.